

-2-

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claim 1. The Claim Listing below will replace all prior versions of the claims in the application:

Claim Listing

1. (Currently amended) A cue stick tip shaper for shaping and reshaping a cue tip on a cue stick used for playing pool or billiards, comprising:
 - a base;
 - an arrangement of articulable guides for receiving and aligning a cue stick tip received therebetween, each guide independently slidable relative to the base; and
 - a scuff surface arranged on said base in alignment with said guides, for shaping a playing surface of said cue tip.
2. (Previously presented) The cue tip shaper as recited in claim 1, wherein each of said guides has a groove thereon to define a channel for receipt of only a portion of said cue stick.
3. (Previously presented) The cue tip shaper as recited in claim 1, wherein each of said guides includes a lubricious material.
4. (Previously presented) The cue stick tip shaper as recited in claim 3, wherein said base has an arrangement of elongated slots thereon for receipt of a shoulder screw for movable securement of said guides to said base.
5. (Previously presented) The cue stick tip shaper as recited in claim 2, wherein said groove comprises a "V" shaped notch arranged on a front face of each of said guides.

-3-

6. (Previously presented) The cue stick tip shaper as recited in claim 1, wherein each of said guides is slidable with respect to one another to provide an adjustable opening for a cue stick disposed therebetween.
7. (Previously presented) The cue stick tip shaper as recited in claim 1, wherein each of said guides is connected to said base.
8. (Previously presented) The cue stick tip shaper as recited in claim 1, wherein said scuff surface comprises a generally hemispherically shaped cutout arranged on an upper surface of said base.
9. (Previously presented) The cue stick tip shaper as recited in claim 8, wherein said scuff surface comprises a replaceable insert of grit material.
10. (Withdrawn) A method of shaping a tip of a cue stick comprising:
 - providing a pair of articulable guides adjacent a scuff surface on a base member, each guide independently slidable relative to the base member;
 - inserting a tip of a cue stick between said guides;
 - moving said guides relative to each other to permit said guides to align and accommodate a diameter of the cue stick tip; and
 - rotating said cue stick about its longitudinal axis while contacting the tip against said scuff surface so as to shape said tip substantially concentrically relative to the longitudinal axis of the cue stick.
11. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 10, wherein providing the pair of articulable guides includes providing an arrangement of grooves in said guides to define an elongated opening therebetween, so as to support and guide said cue stick in alignment with said scuff surface.

-4-

12. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 11, wherein moving said guides includes varying the size of said elongated opening to permit supported guidance of a cue stick tip therewith.
13. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 11, wherein providing the pair of articuable guides includes providing said grooves are of "V" shape in cross-section.
14. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 10, wherein providing the pair of articuable guides includes providing said scuff surface comprises a generally hemispherically shaped depression.
15. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 14, wherein providing the pair of articuable guides includes providing said scuff surface comprises a replaceable insert for insertion into said depression.
16. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 10, wherein providing the pair of articuable guides includes providing said guides are loosely secured to said base member by a threaded bolt threadedly extending into each of said guides through a slot in said base member.
17. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 16, wherein providing the pair of articuable guides includes providing said slots are arranged in diagonal corners in said base member.
18. (Withdrawn) The method as recited in claim 10, wherein providing the pair of articuable guides includes providing each of said guides has a face portion which is opposed to a face portion of the other of said guides.
19. (Withdrawn) A method of shaping a tip of a cue stick comprising:
providing a pair of articuable guides adjacent a scuff surface on a base member;

-5-

inserting a tip of a cue stick between said guides;
moving said guides relative to each other to permit said guides to align and
accommodate a diameter of the cue stick tip; and
rotating said cue stick about its longitudinal axis while contacting the tip against
said scuff surface so as to shape said tip substantially concentrically relative to the
longitudinal axis of the cue stick.